

TAPE SQUEAL



INDIANA RECORDING CLUB, INC.
Vol. XX, No. 9 - September, 1979

ON VIDEO CASSETTE RECORDERS by Mark S. Lucas

By looking at the various video cassette formats on the market, one can only wonder if what happened to four channel (Quad) stereo could possibly happen to them. Frankly, NO! There has been far too much previous researching by the varied manufacturers (and perhaps this with other factors accounted for the long delays of these recorders reaching the market!) But to the uninitiated to this realm of the hobby (and I bet that's about 85% of you!) it's an exciting extension of the aural side. IMAGINE! Having SIGHT with sound! But to do that you will need a video camera (analogous to our microphones) and they range in price from about \$300 to \$1,300 (for a color, Studio quality picture.) I do hope I haven't scared anybody with that fact!

Now, what about the three basic video cassette recorder formats? Take your pick from Sony's "Beta", JVC and Panasonic's "VHS" (Video Home System), or Quasar's own private "Great Time Machine" format. I will attempt to remain as unbiased in my descriptions to follow to allow for YOU to make your own final decision. After all, it will be for YOU to decide whether or not video is right for you at the present time.

First, I should state there are essentially four formats. I left out Sony's "U-Matic" 3/4 inch tape format (all others are 1/2 inch formats) because "U-Matic" is basically THE commercial and professional format used by industry and the broadcasting indus-

try. The machines are much more expensive than the 1/2 inch formats, with units costing at least from \$1,300 on up! Raw tapes are also prohibitive in price. But if you want to eventually go into the commercial production end, then "U-Matic" could be your machine.

Next came Sony's much advertised and discussed "Beta" format and "Betamax." But "Max" in tape length it was not! Only one hour could be recorded on the original units. The more recent units now have two hour capabilities with the use of two speed functions. And originally, if one desired to make a timed video recording, that meant the additional purchase of an add-on timer! Not so with the newer "Betas." Everything now is complete in one unit to simply connect to your antenna system and television receiver.

Not to be outdone by Sony, along came Japan Victor Corporation (JVC) with support eventually from Panasonic's parent Matsushita and voila! Video Home System! (VHS) The difference? Well, my friend, tape cassette was smaller. The actual unit was more compact. And every unit from no matter what company it was manufactured by, by licensing agreement from JVC (very similar to Phillip's original agreement for the audio cassette) looked like a clone of each other! So there! A 100% complete format compatibility! And you can get FOUR hours of programming on low speed!

Continued on Track 3.

Track 2

Tape Squeal is the monthly newsletter of the Indiana Recording Club. Send all news, information, photographs, etc. to Sharon Moore, Editor, 4215 North Oxford Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205.

For information about membership in the Indiana Recording Club contact William B. Davies, Secretary, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46240. Telephone (317) 251-7048.

Please send all changes of address and directory data to Eleanor Davies, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46240.

Your Indiana Recording Club Board of Directors consists of Bill Endicott, President; Bill Tillett, Vice-President; Bill Davies, Secretary; Sue Bereman, Treasurer; and Gene Scott, Member.

TO ALL NEW MEMBERS

When you receive your welcoming tape please return the accompanying postcard to the committee chairman, William Kearney, 2625 W. Jefferson Rd., Kokomo, Indiana 46901.



BOOKS ON TAPE

I was recently introduced to something that I want to share with you. It's called BOOKS ON TAPE, and it's ideal for travelers as well as those at home. BOOKS ON TAPE are oral cassette recordings of some of the world's best literature, and they make it possible for you to enjoy good books while driving, hiking, fishing, sunning, or just relaxing. These books are recorded in their entirety by top-grade professional readers using standard-size cassettes that will play back on regular cassette equipment --- either portable, at home, or in your car. BOOKS ON TAPE are available by mail only for a small rental fee plus handling and postal charges. The rental fee covers a period of 30 days, giving you the opportunity to listen to a book as often as you wish. The current catalog shows several hundred books available, including fiction, historical, non-fiction, travel, adventure, Americana and classics, with more books being added to the list at regular intervals. BOOKS ON TAPE can solve many problems, especially while driving and at the beach where glare makes reading difficult. Overseas, where local radio and TV are usually in a foreign language, BOOKS ON TAPE provide meaningful entertainment during periods of relaxation. For more information, contact BOOKS ON TAPE, INC., P.O. Box 71405, Los Angeles, CA., 90071.



BIG BAND BUFF'S QUIZ

By Jay Montague

EIGHTH MONTH QUIZ

- 1- What instrument did ABE LYMAN play?
- 2- What was RALPH MARGERIE'S theme song?
- 3- FRED MacMURRAY (movie star) played what instrument in who's band?

SEVENTH MONTH ANSWERS

- 1- "Gotta Have Your Love" was INA RAY HUTTON's theme.
- 2- HARRY JAMES started and ended "Coca Cola Spotlight Bands" radio show.
- 3- HERBIE KAY. She was married to him.

New additions to the reel library are:



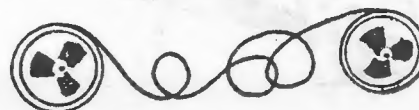
VIDEO RECORDERS (Continued)

Quasar and its parent company Matsushita (YES! Same as Panasonic) thought if the other formats were doing so well, then we could try to do one better. WRONG! Did you get an incompatibility problem! You HAD to have a Quasar "Great Time Machine" unit to exchange tapes or "Sorry Charlie". And raw tapes could get hard to find also.

Now, essentially out of the above mentioned format differences there are other differences I should mention for the more technically minded IRC member. The "U-Matic" as the name may imply has a "U" shaped tape "threading" format. The "Beta" has a scaled down version mechanical movement of the "U-Matic" which is quite good. The "VHS" format has an "M" shaped "wrap" (threading, which is done for you mechanically) and is designed for very trouble-free operation. The Quasar format has an "AlphaScan" and appears to look like the Greek letter Alpha. Unlike the other previously mentioned where the tape lies within the cassettes, as in the audio cassettes, the Quasar video cassettes have the supply reel on top of the take-up reel of tape.

At present, the big "video war" is between the "Beta" and "VHS" formats and it would appear that "VHS" may be winning by a nose! In these two formats, there are an abundance of raw tape, and short supplies are being quickly remedied by the manufacturers and raw tape people such as TDK. And the prices of raw tape range from \$16 to about \$25, with the \$25 being for the 120/240 minute length for "VHS". But when more people come into the hobby, the prices are sure to fall. But don't expect them to fall much below \$10! Video tape must be made to more rigid standards and though audio cassettes can stand minor dropouts, it could spell trouble for video signals!

(To be concluded next month.)



396. America Sings - Eric Rogers Chorale. & This is My America by Paul Whiteman. 3-3/4 ips.
397. Spike Jones is Murdering the Classics, & Spike Jones in the Roaring 20's. 3-3/4 ips.
398. Sacred & Gospel Music - Kate Smith, Mills Bros. & various Country and Western singers. 7". 3-3/4 ips.
399. Sacred Music - Dale Evans & Roy Rogers, Red Foley, Living Strings, Blackwood Bros. & others. 7". 3-3/4.
400. History of Jazz. 7". 3-3/4 ips.
401. Doylecart Opera Co. - H. M. S. Pin afore. 3-3/4 ips.
402. Country & Western music by Tammy Wynette, Sons of the Pioneers, Cal Smith, Mel Tillis, Loretta Lynn, Conway Twitty & Floyd Cramer. 7". 3-3/4 ips.

Additions to the cassette library are:

- C-36. Musical Vignettes from Elmer Fuehr. Mono.
- C-37. Civil War Sounds & Music. Mono.
- C-38. 90 Minutes with the Beach Boys.
- C-39. 90 Minutes with Nat King Cole.
- C-40. 90 Minutes with the 101 Strings.
- C-41. 90 Minutes with the Boston Pops.
- C-42. Dinner Music for People who Aren't Very Hungry. Spike Jones Demonstrates Hi-Fi. C-45. Mono.
- C-43. Jimmy Dorsey with Bob Eberly, Andrews Sisters & Helen O'Connell, + Artie Shaw. From 78's.
- C-44. Al Hirt, "Sugar Lips". Part stereo & part mono.
- C-45. Jack Teagarden, "It's Time for Teagarden". Mono.
- C-46. Glenn Miller, "String of Pearls". Mono.
- C-47. Milt Herth Trio, Andrews Sisters & Dinah Shore. Mono.
- C-48. Woody Herman, Benny Goodman & Kay Kyser. From 78's.
- C-49. Myron Floren, "Dizzy Fingers" & Polkas + Tony Jambor, "Polka Jambor-ee".

Donors: Elmer Fuehr, Wally Kennedy, Herb Stinson, Paul Urbahns & Bob Waters.
-- Bill Davies, Music Librarian.

THE VINTAGE VICTROLA

by BUD BLACK



Some of the songs of today sound as if they were written by some speed freak as he held his breath while being submerged in a vat of simmering grape jelly. Songs have lost their sentimentality: the words don't even make bad sense. No rhyming, no meter, no nuthin'. It wasn't that way in our day. Songs made sense. Words always told a story. Sentimentality was abundant. Things were different.

Oh! Yeah?

Oh! Sure we had MOONLIGHT COCKTAIL, and ALONG THE SANTE FE TRAIL. But we also had (shudder) MAIRZY DOATS, THE HUT SUT SONG, FLAT FOOT FLOOGIE (with the Floy Floy), CEMENT MIXER (Putti Putti), THREE LITTLE FISHES (In the Itty Bitty Poo), and that lovely classic that will endure forever, BIBBITTY-BOBBITY-BOO. In fact, grandma and grandpa used to chuckle and snort, "They didn't have that nonsense when I was a kid. Songs had meaning, by Cracky! None of this foolishness."

Oh! Yeah?

Grandpa used to dance the soles off his shoes to numbers like OOGIE OOGIE WA-WA, BLACK BOTTOM, VARSITY DRAG, ICE CREAM YOU SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM, HOT FEET, and that classic that threatens to outlive anything Stephan Foster ever wrote, GIGGLING GERTIE. Well, maybe this madness started in grandfather's time, but in GREAT-GRANDFATHER'S day, well now. THAT was different. An age of buckboard wagons, gas lamps, tandems, starched collars. No siree, it was a no nonsense time, and the music reflected this period.

Oh! Yeah? How about these, old timer? MAMA GOES WHERE PAPA GOES OR PAPA DON'T GO OUT TONIGHT, SO LONG OOLONG HOW LONG YA GONNA BE GONE, CROSSWORD MAMA YOU PUZZLE ME BUT PAPA'S GONNA FIGURE YOU OUT, THE GRIZZLY BEAR, THE CATS WHISKERS, and that ever popular classic, WHAT DOES A PUSSYCAT MEAN WHEN IT SAYS "MEOW."

Well, okay then. Was there ever a time when there were not songs written of a frivolous nature? Sure! And I have some in the old attic. Cylinder records from before the turn of the century. Ah! Now there was a serious time. Serious songs like SHE'S MORE TO BE PITIED THAN CENSURED, THE BIRD ON NELLIE'S HAT, DON'T GO IN THE LIONS CAGE TONIGHT, HEAVEN WILL PROTECT THE WORKING GIRL, and that beautiful classic that will endure forever, MEET ME IN THE SUMMER MARY 'NEATH THE OLD GRAPE ARBOR IN THE MEADOW.

Now one thing is certain about songs like these.
They HAD to be kidding.



M. H. JONES,
The Old Philosopher Says

If you must criticise,
give the solution.

We need your input for Tape Squeal - see track 5

NEW EDITOR FOUND

"Hi Dad! What's that?"

"It's August's Tape Squeal. Bill Endicott brought it up so I could type the back page before it goes to the printer."

"Bill Endicott!! Is he still editing the Tape Squeal? Hasn't he found an editor for it yet?"

"Not yet." Here Dear Dad (otherwise known as Bill Davies, IRC secretary, etc.) inserts a pregnant pause, for if there is one thing he has learned after three children, five grandchildren, and hoards of cats, it's that anything pregnant - even pauses - has to come forward with something. "Would you like the job?" And if there is anything I should have learned in the past 35 years it's not to leave myself open to leading questions from Dear Dad!!

It only took me a few seconds to realize that I did have a spare moment or two for the job, plus two willing assistants in the form of my two daughters. So, naturally, I volunteered and shortly found myself at Bill Endicott's being infused with the two "A's" - articles and advice - in equal proportions. Voila!! Instant Tape Squeal editor!!

An editor cannot function without input from the membership the newsletter serves. I need your help! Please let me know what you like and dislike about the Tape Squeal. I also need your suggestions as to what you would like to see and read. When submitting articles for the Tape Squeal please include your name and number as well as the original source (name and date) for any articles previously printed. If you would like confirmation of the receipt of your articles please include a stamped envelope or postcard. All original material needs to be typed single spaced either in half-sheet columns or across the entire sheet with 5/8 inch margins on each side. Thank you for your help!

Sharon

Cut out and paste in the correct place on Directory, page 5.

Old Radio Library	DON BOYER, 3647 N. Delaware Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46205. 925-2477.
Welcome Committee	BILL KEARNEY, 2625 W. Jefferson Rd. Kokomo, Ind., 46901. (317) 452-9255.
Tape Squeal Editor	SHARON MOORE, 4215 N. Oxford Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46205. 547-8425.

Track 5.



PRESIDENT'S MIC



What a relief! Something very pleasant has happened. A great load has been lifted from my shoulders. Guess what?! We have a new Tape Squeal editor. And he is a she. Sharon Moore (IRC #1854) has volunteered to take over as editor. When Sharon called me to say that she could take the job, I was flabbergasted to say the least. In fact, I am still in shock. Sharon's two daughters, Tanja Ann and Teresa Kay, are going to be her helpers. Their titles will be "editor's assistant" and "assistant editor." How about that!

In the short time that Sharon has been editor she has already investigated and instigated the starting of bulk mailing of Tape Squeal. This was a tremendous job in itself. All of the address plates had to be rearranged by zip codes. This will save the club about \$400 per year. Sharon's two assistants felt it would be easier for them to do the addressing also. They asked Ken Gillmore if they could relieve him of his job, convincing all that it would save time, effort, and gasoline for everything to be in one house. I want to thank Ken Gillmore for doing such a great job with the addressing for the last fifteen years - a job that has been exasperating at times with all the changes that have to be made each month.

I sincerely want to thank all you nice members who have contributed material for Tape Squeal during the past fourteen months that I have been editor. Without your help Tape Squeal would have been very bare. Your new editor will be needing your help, also. Dave, you can come home now.

We regret to announce the resignation of John Gillespie, chairman of the Welcome Committee. John informed me that due to health reasons it would be better for someone else to take over his office. John and his committee have done a great job for the past four and one-half years. John is only resigning the office, not the club. Thanks, John, for a job well done.

I am happy to announce that we have found a replacement for John. Bill Kearney (IRC #1203) of Kokomo, Indiana, has volunteered to chair the Welcome Committee. Bill has been a member of the committee for over five years and an IRC member since 1971.

TRADING POST

Free notices for IRC members, concerning tape and related items to sell, buy, trade, etc.

John Mulligan S-49 wants old 78's (pre-1920) and old cylinder music. Has a few, will trade reel to reel or cassette, either way.

Keith Bucher S-45 blind IRC member needs someone to read all of the supplementary pages of the IRC directory on either cassette or open reel. Will furnish tape. Any sighted member who has all the pages and would read them please contact.

W.C.Graves S-25 would like to contact someone with Video Recorder with the VHS system. Would like to trade TV programs. Write letter or send a Video tape recorded on the VHS system.

Jerry Johnson D-28 has for sale about 30 photography magazines from the 1950's. \$15.00.

W. Don Curtis D-43 wants anyone interested in exchanging VHS Video cassettes. Individuals interested would share cost of Video cassette which cost about \$20. Please note mailing cost per tape (including insurance) is usually \$2 per tape. This cost to mail tape plus initial shared cost of \$10 should be considered before writing.

Sal Pettinato D-8 has for sale Bauer C-8 Royal Super 8 camera with lap dissolve, Hervic Minette S-5 editor, Craig rewinds, Guillotine and Hahnel splicers, and Slick tripod. All equipment in excellent condition. Send letter or tape or call 203-457-0061.

Tandy Way S-53 has for sale high quality, low noise, high output back coated Ampex 041 series tape. 7 inch reel 1800 ft. In sturdy white box \$1.75 each. No minimum. Will ship UPS when possible.

TWO COLOR TAPE MAILING LABELS WITH IRC LOGO.

Reel Size: 3-1/2 x 4-1/4

Cassette Size: 2-1/4 x 4

Price - \$1.75 per pad of 100 - either size.

Order from BOB GEER

1155 MAYNARD DRIVE

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., 46227

When ordering, please specify size.

IRC MEETINGS

The August IRC meeting found 15 members listening to Rick Cooper from Playback, Inc. explain the new metallic-tape cassettes. It was an enlightening and informative session for all present. Rick has agreed to pen an article for the Tape Squeal about this new tape, so the rest of you will be able to find out about it later!

The September IRC meeting will be held at the usual spot (Leppert-Copeland Mortuary at 740 E. 86th in Indianapolis) on September 16 at 2pm. Bill Tillett will present a program on Africa, featuring African animals. Yall come now, hear!!

VOICE OF HISTORY

Donations received: Cassette from John Oliver and seven 5" reels of readings from the Old Testament by Charlton Heston and Sir Laurence Olivier from Wallace Kennedy. Many thanks to these two members.

VH-71 Why Gettysburg? Written and narrated by John Oliver. Cassette.

VH-72 Genesis

VH-73 Genesis & The Story of Abraham

VH-74 Stories of Joseph & Moses

VH-75 The Golden Image-Nebuchadnezzar-Daniel-Joseph

VH-76 Samuel & Saul, The Ark of God, David & The Giant

VH-77 Naaman-Job-Saul-David-Solomon-Ahab-Elijah

VH-78 The Vision of Isaiah and The Words of Jeremiah.

Bob Geer, Librarian

INDIANA RECORDING CLUB

Sharon Moore, Editor

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